

**OPEN MINUTES
OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE 53rd SENATE
HELD THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2021 @ 9:00 AM BY
ZOOM**

Present: David Docherty (Chair); Bernadette Ardelli; Edward Bach;
Kathryn Chachula; Kofi Campbell; Heather Duncan; Cora Dupuis;
Derrek Eberts; Scott Forbes; Greg Gatien; Jane Karpa; Breanna Lawrence;
Scott Lamont; Rory Lucyshyn-Wright; Mary Jane McCallum;
Andrea McDaniel; Nancy McPherson; Eftihia Mihelakis; Kurt Noll; Curt Shoultz;
Melanie Sucha; Olufunke Adeleye (BUSU); Mila Baqueiro Milosevic (BUSU);
Akech Mayuom-Deng (BUSU); Iyiola Sanya (BUSU); Kathleen Servidad (BUSU)

Regrets: Balfour Spence; Joe Funk; Katie Gross; Kim Ryan; Linda Ross;
Simon Pattison; Titilayo Omojowo (BUSU); Saira Atif (BUSU);
Similoluwa Omotoye (BUSU); Kim Fallis (Recording Secretary)

1. Approval of Agenda

MOTION 127.DEC21 Campbell/Forbes

THAT the agenda be approved as distributed.

CARRIED

2. Open Session

2.1. New Business

2.1.1. Pandemic Response – Winter 2022 Academic Dates Revision

MOTION 128.DEC21 Campbell/Forbes

THAT the Senate approve revised Winter 2022 academic dates as attached.

**CARRIED
21 In Favor
2 Opposed**

Senators engaged in robust discussion regarding the motion to revise Winter 2022 term dates, including the following points:

- Instructors who have already set the dates in their syllabus and planned their course delivery based on the original schedule will have to make changes to accommodate the change of the start date and, in certain cases, loss of contact hours.
- Some Senators were concerned about a loss of contact hours. With the proposed dates, all classes meet minimum contact hour requirements (36 contact hours per 3 credit-hour course), but some courses were originally scheduled with “extra” hours given the increased flexibility that is generally available in the Winter term.
- Delaying the start date as proposed may make it easier for parents to accommodate student being at home given that the Brandon School Division has delayed its beginning of classes by one week as well.
- Some Senators expressed concern about how having one month of classes on line and then changing to in person in February will affect student living arrangements.
- This start date delay (and associated pivot to several weeks of remote learning) will likely have effects on student, staff, and faculty mental health.

3. Adjournment

MOTION 129.DEC21 Campbell/Noel

THAT the committee adjourn at 10:50 am.

CARRIED